IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

Claim 1 (Currently Amended): A method for positioning a glass plate, comprising:

conveying a glass plate by a roller conveyor including a plurality of rollers, each roller having a rolling axis; [[and]]

determining a first posture of the glass plate being conveyed by the roller conveyor;

comparing the first posture to a previously stored reference posture; and

moving at least one of the plurality of rollers ~~individually~~ in a direction substantially parallel to the rolling axis when the at least one of the plurality of rollers is in contact with the glass plate in conveyance, to position the glass plate so as to conform ~~a posture of~~ the glass plate to [[a]] the previously stored reference posture,

wherein the moving the at least one of the plurality of rollers includes moving each of the at least one of the plurality of rollers independently with respect to each other roller of the plurality of rollers.

Claims 2-3 (Canceled).

Claim 4 (Currently Amended): The method according to Claim 1, ~~further comprising:~~ wherein the determining the first posture includes

using an imaging means to capture an image of the glass plate being conveyed by the roller conveyor, and [[;]]

recognizing the first posture of the glass plate based on the captured image of the glass plate;

wherein the comparing the first posture to the previously stored reference posture includes

comparing the recognized first posture with the previously stored reference posture ~~previously stored~~ to find a deviation amount of the posture of the glass plate with respect to the previously stored reference posture, [[;]] and

finding an axial displacement amount to be applied to the at least one of the plurality rollers that is ~~roller~~ in contact with the glass plate based on the found deviation amount; and

wherein the moving the at least one of the plurality of rollers includes moving the at least one of the plurality rollers that is ~~roller~~ in contact with the glass plate in accordance with the found axial displacement amount.

Claim 5 (Currently Amended): The method according to Claim 1, ~~further comprising~~ wherein the moving the at least one of the plurality of rollers includes independently moving ~~plural~~ at least two of the plurality of rollers ~~lying under the glass plate~~ in sequence one after another in conjunction [[of]] with the conveyance of the glass plate.

Claim 6 (Currently Amended): ~~The method according to Claim 1, further comprising~~ A method for positioning a glass plate, comprising:

conveying a glass plate by a roller conveyor including a plurality of rollers, each roller having a rolling axis;

determining a first posture of the glass plate being conveyed by the roller conveyor;

comparing the first posture to a previously stored reference posture; and

simultaneously moving at least two of the plurality of ~~plural~~ rollers in a direction substantially parallel to the rolling axis when the at least two of the plurality of rollers are in contact with ~~supporting~~ the glass plate in conveyance, to position the glass plate so as to conform the glass plate to the previously stored reference posture.

Claims 7-10 (Canceled).

Claim 11 (Currently Amended): A method for bending a glass plate, comprising:

using the method for positioning a glass plate defined in Claim 1 to position the glass plate so as to conform ~~a posture of~~ the glass plate with [[a]] the previously stored reference posture, the glass plate having been heated to a glass bending temperature; and

bending the positioned glass plate in a desired curved shape.

Claim 12 (Currently Amended): The method according to Claim 11, wherein the bending of the positioned glass plate is performed by making use of vertical movement of at least one bending roller ~~rollers~~.

Claims 13-24 (Canceled).

Claim 25 (New): The method according to Claim 6,

wherein the determining the first posture includes

using an imaging means to capture an image of the glass plate being conveyed by the roller conveyor, and

recognizing the first posture of the glass plate based on the captured image of the glass plate;

wherein the comparing the first posture to the previously stored reference posture includes

comparing the recognized first posture with the previously stored reference posture to find a deviation amount of the posture of the glass plate with respect to the previously stored reference posture, and

finding an axial displacement amount to be applied to the at least two of the plurality rollers that are in contact with the glass plate based on the found deviation amount; and

wherein the moving the at least two of the plurality of rollers includes moving the at least two of the plurality rollers that are in contact with the glass plate in accordance with the found axial displacement amount.

Claim 26 (New): A method for bending a glass plate, comprising:

using the method for positioning a glass plate defined in Claim 6 to position the glass plate so as to conform a posture of the glass plate with the previously stored reference posture, the glass plate having been heated to a glass bending temperature; and

bending the positioned glass plate in a desired curved shape.

Claim 27 (New): The method according to Claim 26, wherein the bending of the positioned glass plate is performed by making use of vertical movement of at least one bending roller.

Claim 28 (New): A method for positioning a glass plate, comprising:

conveying a glass plate by a roller conveyor including a plurality of actuators and a plurality of rollers, each roller having a rolling axis;

determining a first posture of the glass plate being conveyed by the roller conveyor;

comparing the first posture to a previously stored reference posture; and

moving at least two of the plurality of rollers in a direction substantially parallel to the rolling axis when the at least two of the plurality of rollers are in contact with the glass plate in conveyance, to position the glass plate so as to conform the glass plate to the previously stored reference posture,

wherein each of the at least two of the plurality of rollers is moved by a different one of the plurality of actuators.

Claim 29 (New): The method according to Claim 28, wherein the determining the first posture includes

using an imaging means to capture an image of the glass plate being conveyed by the roller conveyor, and

recognizing the first posture of the glass plate based on the captured image of the glass plate;

wherein the comparing the first posture to the previously stored reference posture includes

comparing the recognized first posture with the previously stored reference posture to find a deviation amount of the posture of the glass plate with respect to the previously stored reference posture, and

and finding an axial displacement amount to be applied to the at least two of the plurality rollers that are in contact with the glass plate based on the found deviation amount; and

wherein the moving the at least two of the plurality of rollers includes moving the at least two of the plurality rollers in accordance with the found axial displacement amount.

Claim 30 (New): The method according to Claim 28, wherein the moving the at least two of the plurality of rollers includes independently moving the at least two of the plurality of rollers in sequence one after another in conjunction with the conveyance of the glass plate.

Claim 31 (New): The method according to Claim 28, wherein the moving the at least two of the plurality of rollers includes simultaneously moving the at least two of the plurality of rollers.

Claim 32 (New): A method for bending a glass plate, comprising:

using the method for positioning a glass plate defined in Claim 28 to position the glass plate so as to conform a posture of the glass plate with the previously stored reference posture, the glass plate having been heated to a glass bending temperature; and

bending the positioned glass plate in a desired curved shape.

Claim 33 (New): The method according to Claim 32, wherein the bending of the positioned glass plate is performed by making use of vertical movement of at least one bending roller.